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VIRGINIA IN 1636.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF WEST AND RETURN OF HARVEY.

(Abstracts by W. N. Sainsbury, and Copies in McDonald Papers,
Virginia State Library, from the British Public
Record Office.)

NAMES OF MUTINEERS SENT FOR INTO ENGLAND.

(Copy.)

Dec., 1635.

The names of such men as have been proved to be the chiefe heads and Actors in the late faction and Mutenye in Virginia.

Captaine John West, the Usurper of the Government.

Captaine John Utie arested Sir John Harvey, his Majesties Governor, of Treason when he was setting in Councell for his Majesties Service.

[On margin]: Vide: the generall Letter sent by them to the Lords of the Council.

Captain Samuel Mathewes immediately after Utie had so arested Sir John Harvie tooke him violently and held him in his Chayre, and with the rest of the Mutenous Companye willed him to prepare himself to goe for England.

[On margin]: Vide: Mathewes letter to Sir John Wostenholme.

Captaine William Pearce brought 30 Armed men to James Towne and with them besett Sir John Harvey's house.

[On margin]: Mr. Lidcote.

Mr. George Minifie joyned with the rest in deposeing his Majesties Governor and took the custody of his Comission and instructions from Sir John Harvey.

[On margin]: Mathewes Letter to Sir John Wostenholme.

Mathewes, Utie and Pierce besides their ill behavior in this present occasion opposed themselves very saucely against his Proposition for the Tobacco Contract, sayeing that his Majestie could not restrayne them in Virginia from Planting upon their owne Land what they pleased. And Pearce then alleged for a

reason of such his opinion; That the Officers which went to repress the Tobacco planting in England were well beaten for their labour.

Mathewes in severall other occasions hath factiously opposed his Majestie's service and commands.

1. He Sleighted Captaine Younge's Commission and denied him that reasonable assistance which his Majestie by his Letters commanded the Governor and Councell to give him.

2. When Mathewes said that the Governor would accommodate Captaine Young notwithstanding the opposition he had made, he then told the Governor that those his proceedings would breed badd blood in Virginia.

3. The Lords of his Majesties Councell having given expresse direction that no strangers should Trade in Virginia for Tobacco, whereof Mathewes being one of the Councell had notice, he yet notwithstanding Traded himself with Constable, a dutchman, and so countenanced the dutchman by receiving him into his house and by other his cariages on that occasion that the dutchman had as free Trade there as any of the English.

Reasons why Sir John Zouch should not be made one of the Councell in Virginia, nor be permitted to returne thither againe:

1. Sir John Zouch is observed to be of a factious disposition, and of the Puritan Sect. And its probable that all these stirrs which have happened in Virginia have bin fomented by him, for he arived there about the beginning of November, 1631, and immediately he consorted himselfe with Mathewes and the rest of the faction, and in December following they fell to consult and contrive the complaint against Sir John Harvey which his Majestie hath heard, and sent them into England by Sir John Zouch and gave him £500 to beare his charges in the Negotiation.

2. It appeares by Young Mr. Zouch, his Letter to his father, that Sir John Harvey was removed to make place for Sir John Zouch to be Governor of Virginia.

[On margin]: Vide: Mr. Zouch's Letter to Sir John Zouch.
S. P. O. Colo., Vol. 8, No. 85.

HARVEY TO NICHOLAS.

(Abstract.)

1635-6, February 15.

Sir John Harvey to Edward Nicholas, Clerk of the Council. Entreats him to move the Lords of the Admiralty in regard it is Maj. pleasure to lend him a Ship for six months to transport him to Virginia, that the Mary Rose may be assigned to him furnished with munition & he will take charge of her and victual and man her out and home and as he has many passengers outward bound that she be manned only with 50 or 60 Mariners. Desires that Captain Woodcock may go Master in her. 1 p.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol 9, No. 5.)

PETITION OF NICHOLAS AND FOOTE.

(Abstract.)

1635-6, March 19.

Petition of Richard Nicholas and Joshua Foote, iron mongers, to the Lords of the Privy Council. At Sir John Harvey's going over to Virginia petitioners furnished him with iron wares to the value of Upwards of £45, which he gave his bond to pay in January 1629 (-30), but has altogether denied to pay said money tho' often earnestly desired. Pray that their said debt may be paid out of the moneys due to said Sir John for his Maj. pay to him.

Underwritten is an Order (signed by Edward Nicholas, clerk of the Council), requiring Sir John Harvey either to give satisfaction to the Petitioners or attend their Lordships on Wednesday to show cause to the contrary.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 6.)

GOVERNOR WEST TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR PLANTATIONS.

(Abstract.)

1636, March 28, Point Comfort [Virginia].

Governor John West to the Lords Commissioners for Plantations.

Within few days after Sir John Harvey had expressed his intent to the Council here of departing the colony they opened

his Maj. comission wherein they found themselves enjoined in case of vacancy to elect among their number one to supply the place until further command from his Maj. or their Lordships, which made by plurality of voices his Maj. commission expressly ratifies. The council with one consent fastened their voices on him to which the peoples suffrages as willingly condescended. Neither was presumption the cause of so hasty a choice before Sir John Harvey was out of the capes as it is injuriously objected by some for the election was deferred until the last day and hour of the council's sitting, after which time it was impossible to effect it with a full conformity to his Maj. commission, some of the Council dwelling one hundred miles from others. If it shall please his Maj. to confirm the act of the Country he shall, to his utmost, express himself a faithful and Zealous servant or otherwise with as devoted a submission be ready to give up his charge. The Colony hath this year received an increase of 1606 persons. Finds that much imputation undeservedly lyeth upon the country by the Merchant's crime, who so pester their Ships with passengers that through throng and noisomeness they bring no less than an infection among them which is so easily to be distinguished from any cause in the Malignity of the climate, that where the most pestered ships vent their passengers, they carry with them almost a general mortality. Without infringing his Maj. grant to Lord Baltimore they have taken the nearest course for avoiding of further unnatural broils between those of Maryland and of the Isle of Kent binding those they find of Maryland in their limits in deep bonds to keep the King's peace towards those of the Isle of Kent as also Capt. Claiborne the Commander of the Isle of Kent towards those of Maryland. Indorsed by Secretary Windebank: "John West chosen Governor in Virginia to the Lords Commissⁿ for Plantation, rec. 19 June, at Hampton Court." (*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 7.)

KING'S COMMISSION TO GOVERNOR HARVEY.

(Abstract.)

1636, April 2, Westminster.

The King's Commission to Sir John Harvey, Governor, and to such as are, or shall be appointed, Councillors of Virginia.

Whereas his Maj. by Letters Patents of 26 March, 1629, nominated said Sir John by the name of John Harvey, Esq^r, Governor and divers persons the Council of said Colony which Commission his Maj. absolutely revokes by these presents, nevertheless for better ordering the affairs of said colony until his Maj. shall find means to give more ample directions for the same, his Maj. by these presents nominates said Sir John Harvey and such others as his Maj. has named or shall hereafter name to be Governor & Council of said Colony with power to execute the Authorities incident to a Governor and Council of Virginia as amply as any Governor and Council there at any time within ten years last past. Nevertheless according to such instructions as they do now or shall hereafter receive from his Maj., his Privy Council, or the Lords Commissioners for Plantations for the time being, with power to grant Commissions for the discovery of the country and finding out what trades shall be most advantageous and to send out forces for subduing the Indians and make war and peace with them, keeping always sufficient forces for holding the places now enjoyed. With power to the greater part of said Council, upon the death or in the absence of the Governor to elect one of said council to be present Governor and to the Governor on the death or discontinuance of any of said Council to give notice thereof to his Maj. & Commiss^{rs} of Plantations. Also power to said Sir John Harvey and to Richard Kemp who have already taken their oaths to administer the like oath to said Councillors. This Commission to continue in force until by some other writing under the signet Privy Seal or Great Seal of England his Maj. shall signify his pleasure to the contrary.

(*Patent Roll*, 12 Car. I, Part 21, No. 1. Dorse.)

RICHARD KEMP TO SECRETARY WINDEBANKE.

(Abstract.)

1636, April 11, Point Comfort, Virginia.

Richard Kemp (Secretary in Virginia) to Secretary Sir Francis Windebank. Twenty-one sail of ships have arrived this year in James River all good & now going freighted with tobacco for the port of London. By the computation of men of credit in the John & Barbary of Ipswich the King's Customs amounted

to £3,334 and is well assured that there were other Ships able to stow more. His Honor may conceive what a revenue might issue to the King from this Colony. The seamen who are here the greatest merchants have ready ways for conveyance of their goods custom free, yet if the third were embezzled the customs might reach to £20,000 yearly. If the King had a custom house here with a good allowance to a customer it would quicken the trade, encourage the building of shipping here, and yield an exceeding advancement to the King's profit, for they need but to revive an old order that commodities of the country should be brought to three stores, it were then impossible to defeat the King of one penny of his customs & it would be a wonderful content to the merchants if after his customs here discharged his Port might be free & a very great benefit for the Planter for the reasons stated. Indorsed: rec. 19 June, at Hampton Court.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 9.)

PETITION OF FRANCIS POTT.

(Abstract.)

1636, May 20, Star Chamber.

Petition of Francis Pott, late Captain of his Maj. Fort in Virginia, close prisoner in the Fleet, to the Lords of the Privy Council. Has been a close prisoner ever since 14 July last, to his infinite charge and lamentable sufferings concerning the complaint against Sir John Harvey. That for any offence committed on his part petit^r is truly sorrowful and craves pardon, beseeching their Lordships to commiserate his long imprisonment tending to his utter undoing, being already bare of means and destitute of friends and therefore in this dangerous time of contagion to grant him his liberty whereby he may be preserved from threatened famine and infection.

With reference to Sec. Windebank to acquaint his Maj. with this petition & upon his Maj. pleasure their Lordships will give further order.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 12.)

HARVEY TO WINDEBANKE.

(Abstract.)

1636, June 26, London.

Sir John Harvey to Secretary Sir Francis Windebank. His Honor knows that trade and commerce are of no small importance to enrich a Country and that the means of exchange is a very principal part of trade which Virginia wants, there being in the country little or no money, whereby most men are utterly disabled of means to supply their ordinary necessities and workmen & laborers are discouraged & refuse to follow their vocations in regard that when they have done their work there is no means to pay them until the crop of tobacco be ready, & they want whereof to live in the meantime. His humble suit is that his Honor will move his Majesty that some farthing tokens may be sent thither and made current there. 1 p.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 17.)

THE KING TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA.

(Abstract.)

1636, Aug. 4, Rufford.

The King to the Governor and Council of Virginia. His Majesty has very seriously considered the state of his Colonies in Virginia, St. Christopher's, Bermudas and the rest of the Caribbee Islands, and finds that generally they have bent their chief endeavors upon the planting of tobacco, the Excessive quantity of which makes it to be of little or no value and being given to understand that at Nevis, St. Christopher's and Barbadoes the inhabitants have employed themselves in cotton wools which prosper well and yield the planters good profit for their labors, which course has brought the price of tobacco from 2^d per lb. to 8^d or more clear of all charges. All which circumstances his Maj. having well weighed finds that Virginia "(which is the most ancient plantation of our English Nation)," hath been more slow than those other Plantations in setting up such staple commodities as that place is capable of, which are hemp, flax and the like. Therefore his Maj. tendering his subjects wel-

fare has thought fit by these letters to advise the Governor and Council of Virginia to reflect upon their own particular interests and to endeavour the planting of some staple commodities, for which cause his Maj. requires them to be very careful to moderate the excessive quantities of tobacco there planted and to procure the inhabitants to plant such other staple commodities as are fit for the place. They are required to take effectual order that all Virginia tobacco be brought to the Port of London and no foreigner or alien be permitted to trade for or export any; also that some fit place be appointed where entry shall be made of tobacco & other goods exported, with an able officer to keep register thereof and certify the same yearly to the Lord Treasurer of England with a competent fee and allowance out of said commodities. The King also expects from them a good account of his letter to them touching the contract for tobacco.

Draft with corrections. In a mem. on endorsement. Lord Goring desires Mr. Read to send the dispatch of this business to Portsmouth where Jerome Hawley will expect it on board the Black George. 3 pp.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 20.)

EXAMINATION OF JOHN DUNTON, MARINER.

(Abstract.)

1636, Sept. 24.

Examination of John Dunton of London, Mariner. In a small ship of London called the Little David, set out by Mr. Armitage a woollen draper at the sign of the Beads in Cannon st., with 50 men and boys and 7 women bound for Virginia, John Hogg Master, they were all taken by a Sallee man 35 leagues beyond the Land's End; they were taken to Sallee and sold for slaves, amongst whom was a son of examinant about nine years of age. Was sold to one, Aligolant, who having the greatest part in this bark and having never a Christian slave but examinant that could take charge of a ship, commanded him to go. Pilot to the English channel for taking English women being of more worth than other. Coming on the English Coast they took a fisher boat with intention to make a party against the Moors according to a previous resolution. At a certain time they called to the

Dutch & English to stand up for their lives and liberties, whereupon they drove the Moors into the hold hoisted up a white flag and hung the Turk's colours over the stern into the water & brought their bark into the first port.

(*Domestic Correspondence*, Charles I, Vol. 331, No. 20, V.)

PETITION OF HARVEY TO THE KING.

(Abstract.)

1636, Oct. 31, Inclosure.

Petition of Sir John Harvey, Governor of Virginia, to the King. Harvey victualled at very great charge his Maj. prize Ship the Black George to transport himself and his company to Virginia whereof more than twenty of the 100 passengers were gentlemen of quality who to do his Maj. service in those parts and 50 able seamen. Pet' Set sail from Cowes on 2d Oct. for Virginia but about twenty leagues from Scilly the ship proved so leaky and insufficient that pet' was restrained to return to Portsmouth.

Prays in regard said ship is not fit for the voyage and that he hath taken his passage upon a small ship now bound thither but is forced to leave his company and goods to come after him that his Maj. will in compassion of petitioners great loss, give order that he may have speedy supply out of the arrearsages of his entertainment to enable him to transport his company and goods thither.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 27, I.)

ORDER OF PRIVY COUNCIL.

(Abstract.)

1636, Dec. 21, Hampton Court.

Order of the Privy Council on letter from the Officers of the Navy (See 8 Dec.), touching payment of the men who served in the Black George lately lent by his Maj. to Sir John Harvey for his transportation into Virginia.

That Sir John Harvey shall pay the wages of the Captain, officers and Company from the time that said ship entered into sea, victuals until they were discharged from said ship, accord-

to the rates allowed to seamen serving in his Maj. Ships [what follows has been added by Edward Nicholas, clerk of the council] and their Lordships conceive it is just and reasonable that those that sent said Sir John Harvey out of Virginia into England should be enjoined to repay the said monies when they should be convicted for that their insolent presumption signed by Guil. London (Bishop of London), Sir. H. Vane and Sir J. Coke.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 30, I.)

THE KING TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA.

(Abstract.)

1636, Jan. 5, Hampton Court.

The King to the Governor and Council of Virginia.

When "our Colonies of Virginia" were governed by a company a certain yearly rent of 12^d was reserved for every fifty acres, which rents by the dissolution of said company are become due to his Maj. and the like rents have been or ought to be reserved to the King upon all grants since made but no Treasurer or other particular officer has yet been appointed to take charge of them. His Majesty being resolved not to lose those rights and royalties appoints Jerom Hawley, Esq., one of the Gentlemen servers to our dearest Consort the Queen our Treasurer of Virginia with all such powers, authorities, privileges, fees and allowances as any Treasurer there had in the time of said Company and requires them to give him the Oaths of Treasurer of Virginia and of one of the Council there and to give him place and precedency according to his office. Draft with corrections. 2. pp.

(*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 33.)